

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Hiromasa Tanobe et al.

Application No.: 10/717,225

Confirmation No.: 6024

Filed: November 19, 2003

Art Unit: 2613

For: Optical Communication System

Examiner: D. J. Lee

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date, OR more than three months after the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application, AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs first, but before the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (37 CFR 1.97(c)).

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is in the form of an English language copy of an Office Action from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper

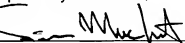
Application No.: 10/717,225

Docket No.: 5259-000034/US

hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 08-0750, under Order No. 5259-000034/US.

Dated: September 11, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO			<b>Complete If Known</b>		
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	10/717,225-Conf. #6024	
			Filing Date	November 19, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	Hiromasa Tanobe	
			Art Unit	2613	
			Examiner Name	D. J. Lee D. Singh	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	5259-000034/US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
/DS/	AA*	US-6,718,140	04-06-2004	Kamei, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>1</sup> -Number <sup>1</sup> -Kind Code <sup>1</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>2</sup>
/DS/	BA	JP-58-123246	07-22-1983	Hashimoto et al.		
/DS/	BB	JP-2001-346235	12-14-2001	Kato et al.		✓
/DS/	BC	JP-2001-53760, corresponding to AA, above	02-23-2001	Kamei et al.		
/DS/	BD	JP-8-242208	09-17-1996	Matsunaga et al.		✓

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \* CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an angle asterisk (\*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.96(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T <sup>2</sup>
/DS/	CA	Takahashi et al., "Impact of Crosstalk in an Arrayed-Waveguide Multiplexer on NXN Optical Interconnection", Journal of Lightwave Technology, Vol. 14, No. 6, June 1996.			
/DS/	CB	Chang-Joon Chae, "A Flexible and Protected Virtual Optical Ring Network", IEEE Photonics Technology Letters, Vol. 14, No. 11, November 2002			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	/Daljit Singh/ (01/11/2008)	Date Considered	
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